UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/646,019	08/22/2003	Thomas Soares	LON-001	9263

53830   7590   11/16/2007
KOKKA & BACKUS, PC
200 PAGE MILL ROAD
SUITE 103
PALO ALTO, CA 94306

EXAMINER
LE, DEBBIE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2168	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
11/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>23 August 2007</u>.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>15-30</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>15-30</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's remarks/arguments filed on August 23, 2007. Claims 1-14 have been

cancelled. Claims 15-30 are newly added for examination.

Claim Objections

Claims 15, 19 and 30 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The acronym "IT" is not initially written in full.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 15-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Northcutt et al (US Patent Application Pub. No. 2003/0126011 A1) in view of Baharami

et al (US 2004/0078777 A1).

As per claim 15, Northcutt discloses [a] method, comprising:

displaying a plurality of icons (Fig. 2), wherein each of the plurality of icons is

configured to initiate an action associated with a service and an IT service catalog

(para. [0053], [0063, lines 1-4], a number of different options be displayed on a main

interface page allow users to perform various classification of tasks (i.e., user initiate

requests for a service for information technology);

performing the action if one of the plurality of icons is selected (para. 0064, lines

1-5, "submit a request" is entered by a user);

presenting an interface comprising one or more fields associated with the action

wherein each of the one or more fields is adapted to receive input associated with the

action (Fig. 12, para. 0009, para. 0064, presents a form with fields so that requestor can

fill out the requesting data), the input being stored in a data structure and used to

generate an instance and an attribute associated with each of the one or more fields

(Fig. 14, para. 0064 last 7 lines summary information is presented to the user for

verifying the information), the data structure being further configured to receive and

store data entered in the one or more fields (Figs. 9, 19, para. 00100072, a request for

service stored in the database and and allow the user to edit or view an existing request

for service);

receiving cost information in the interface, the cost information comprising a

name and a formula configured to determine the cost information (para. 0064, lines

1045, cost benefit analysis information provided by a user is calculated); and

determining a service action associated with the service, wherein the service

action is determined using information entered in a service field presented on the

interface, the information being used to generate an instance of the service action and

(para. 0065, 0067).

Northcutt does not explicitly teach, but Bahrami teaches identifying a relationship between the service and the data structure, the data structure being configured to point to the service, the data structure being used to create a hierarchy associated with the service (para. 0032 hierarchy process modeling of an activity) and the service action comprising another relationship associated with another service action, the service action and the another service action being disposed in a service action hierarchy (para. 0035, each individual activity and its relationship to other activities). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references to implement the step of identifying a relationship between the service and the data structure to create a hierarchy associated with the service and the service action related to another service action in the hierarchy because it would provide users of Northcutt's system easily to closed-loop analysis of a business process.

As pee claim 16, Northcutt further teaches wherein the action comprises modifying the service (Fig. 9, edit RFS).

As per claim 17, Northcutt further teaches wherein the action comprises deleting the service.

As per claim 18, Northcutt further teaches wherein the action comprises modifying a resource (para. 0051, last 5 lines).

As per claim 19, Northcutt further teaches wherein the cost information is used to identify the service action (para. 0067).

As per claim 20, Northcutt further teaches wherein the cost information comprises a validation constraint (para. 0065, first 10 lines).

As per claim 21, Northcutt further teaches wherein the formula is a validation formula (para. 0064, cost and analysis are calculated).

As per claim 22, Northcutt further teaches displaying a palette comprising one or more primitives, wherein the one or more primitives are associated with the service, service action, and a workflow task (Fig. 18).

As per claims 23-24, Northcutt further teaches identifying the attribute, wherein the attribute is a formula configured to identify a maximum limit associated with the one or more fields and identifying the attribute, wherein the attribute is a formula configured to identify a minimum limit associated with the one or more fields (para. 0047-0049)

As per claim 25, Northcutt further teaches identifying the attribute, wherein the attribute is a formula configured to identify a property associated with content input into the one or more fields (para. 0065).

As per claim 26, Northcutt further teaches generating one or more displays configured to receive data associated with a database model configured to store the instance, the relationship, and the pointer (Fig. 23).

As per claim 27, Northcutt further teaches wherein the cost information comprises data used to compute implementation costs for using the service (para. 0064).

As per claim 28, Northcutt further teaches wherein the service action field comprises a service action pointer configured to point to a data structure associated with the instance (Fig. 12).

As per claim 29, Northcutt discloses [a] method comprising:

displaying an icon configured to initiate an action associated with a service and an IT service catalog (para. [0053], [0063, lines 1-4], a number of different options be displayed on a main interface page allow users to perform various classification of tasks (i.e., user initiate requests for a service for information technology);

initiating the action when the icon is selected (para. 0064, lines 1-5, "submit a request" is entered by a user);

presenting an interface comprising a field associated with the action, wherein the field is adapted to receive input associated with the action (Fig. 12, para. 0009, para. 0064, presents a form with fields so that requestor can fill out the requesting data (Fig. 14), the input being stored in a data structure and used to generate an instance of the service (para. 0064 last 7 lines summary information is presented to the user for verifying the information), the data structure being further configured to receive and store data entered in the field (Figs. 9, 19, para. 0010, 0072, a request for service stored in the database and allow the user to edit or view an existing request for service);

receiving cost information in the interface, the cost information comprising a name and a formula configured to determine the cost information (para. 0064, lines 10-45, cost benefit analysis information provided by a user is calculated); and

determining a service action associated with the service, wherein the service

action is determined using information entered in a service field presented on the

interface is generated using the service action (para. 0065, 0067).

Northcutt does not explicitly teach, but Bahrami teaches identifying a relationship

between the service and the data structure, the relationship being used to implement a

pointer configured to point to the service (para. 0035, each individual activity and its

relationship to other activities) and generating a hierarchy comprising the pointer,

wherein the hierarchy is configured using the pointer and other pointers having

relationship to other services (para. 0032 hierarchy process modeling of an activity).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention

was made to combine the teachings of the cited references to implement the step of

identifying a relationship between the service and the data structure, the relationship

being used to implement a pointer configured to point to the service and generating a

hierarchy comprising the pointer, wherein the hierarchy is configured using the pointer

and other pointers having relationship to other services because it would provide users

of Northcutt's system easily to closed-loop analysis of a business process.

As per claim 30, Northcutt discloses [a] computer program product embodied in a

computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

displaying a plurality of icons, wherein each of the plurality of icons is configured

to initiate an action associated with a service and an IT service catalog (para. [0053],

[0063, lines 1-4], a number of different options be displayed on a main interface page

allow users to perform various classification of tasks (i.e., user initiate requests for a service for information technology);

performing the action if one of the plurality of icons is selected (para. 0064, lines 1-5, "submit a request" is entered by a user);

presenting an interface comprising one or more fields associated with the action, wherein each of the one or more fields is adapted to receive input associated with the action (Fig. 12, para. 0009, para. 0064, presents a form with fields so that requestor can fill out the requesting data), the input being stored in a data structure and used to generate an instance and an attribute associated with each of the one or more fields (para. 0064 last 7 lines summary information is presented to the user for verifying the information), the data structure being further configured to receive and store data entered in the one or more fields (Figs. 9, 19, para. 0010, 0072, a request for service stored in the database and allow the user to edit or view an existing request for service);

receiving cost information in the interface, the cost information comprising a name and a formula configured to determine the cost information (para. 0064, lines 10-45, cost benefit analysis information provided by a user is calculated); and

determining a service action associated with the service, wherein the service action is determined using information entered in a service field presented on the interface, the information being used to generate an instance of the service action and the service action (para. 0065, 0067).

Northcutt does not explicitly teach, but Bahrami teaches identifying a relationship between the service and the data structure, the data structure being configured to point

to the service (para. 0035, each individual activity and its relationship to other activities),

the data structure being used to create a hierarchy associated with the service and

the service action and the another service action being disposed in a service action

hierarchy (para. 0032 hierarchy process modeling of an activity). Thus, it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to

combine the teachings of the cited references to implement the step of identifying a

relationship between the service and the data structure, the data structure being

configured to point to the service and the data structure being used to create a

hierarchy associated with the service and the service action and the another service

action being disposed in a service action hierarchy because it would provide users of

Northcutt's system easily to closed-loop analysis of a business process.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 15-30 filed on August 23, 2007 have

been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

POINTS OF CONTACT

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to DEBBIE M. LE whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4111. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Tim Vo can be reached on (571) 272-3642. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DEBBIE LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

11/9/07